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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
Publications and Reports
Washington, D.C.
20210

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5, 1977

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REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

The U.S. Department of Labor operates through 10 regional offices located in major cities across the country. If you want a local angle on a news or feature story provided through this service--or have a direct news inquiry--you may contact one of the offices listed below. This listing includes the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Public Information Directors and the states in their regions:

Region I.....	Paul F. Neal	
	Room E-308	
Connecticut	JFK Federal Bldg.	
Maine	Boston, Mass. 02203	
Massachusetts	617-223-6767	
New Hampshire		
Rhode Island		
Vermont		
Region II.....	Edward I. Weintraub	
	Room 3570	
New Jersey	1515 Broadway	
New York	New York, N.Y. 10036	
Puerto Rico	212-399-5477	
Virgin Islands		
Region III.....	John P. Hord	
	Room 2460	
Delaware	3535 Market St.	
District of Columbia	Philadelphia, Pa. 19104	
Maryland	215-596-1139	
Pennsylvania		
Virginia		
West Virginia		
Region IV.....	Frances Ridgway	
	Room 317	
Alabama	1371 Peachtree St., N.E.	
Florida	Atlanta, Ga. 30309	
Georgia	404-526-5495	
Mississippi		
North Carolina		
South Carolina		
Tennessee		
Kentucky		
Region V.....	John D. Mellott	
	Room 737	
Illinois	230 S. Dearborn St.	
Indiana	Chicago, Ill. 60606	
Michigan	312-353-6976	
Minnesota		
Ohio		
Wisconsin		
Region VI.....	Les Gaddie	
	Room 220	
Arkansas	555 Griffin Sq. Bldg.	
Louisiana	Griffin and Young Sts.	
New Mexico	Dallas, Texas 75202	
Oklahoma	214-749-2308	
Texas		
Region VII.....	Neal A. Johnson	
	Room 2509	
Iowa	Federal Office Bldg.	
Kansas	911 Walnut St.	
Missouri	Kansas City, Mo. 64106	
Nebraska	816-374-5481	
Region VIII.....	Ernest E. Sanchez	
	Room 14010	
Colorado	Federal Bldg.	
Montana	1961 Stout St.	
North Dakota	Denver, Co. 80294	
South Dakota	303-837-4235	
Utah		
Wyoming		
Region IX.....	Joe B. Kirkbride	
	Room 10007	
Arizona	Federal Bldg.	
California	450 Golden Gate Ave.	
Hawaii	San Francisco, Calif. 94102	
Nevada	415-556-3423	
Region X.....	Jack Strickland	
	Room 8001	
Alaska	Federal Office Bldg.	
Idaho	909 First Ave.	
Oregon	Seattle, Wash. 98174	
Washington	206-442-7620	

Week of September 5, 1977

LABOR DAY STATEMENT BY
SECRETARY OF LABOR RAY MARSHALL

Labor Day is a fitting annual tribute to working men and women for their many valuable contributions in our society. Working people and the organizations representing them have long been important forces behind social and economic progress benefiting all citizens.

In 1977, this important national holiday occurs as significant steps are being taken to advance and protect the well-being of wage-earners through historic new legislation and programs.

While employment of American workers has reached an all-time peak and unemployment shows signs of declining, this Administration has assigned the highest priority to putting millions of jobless people back to work and speeding recovery from economic recession.

President Carter's economic recovery program is designed to stimulate the creation of jobs in the private sector, where most employment opportunities exist and to provide temporary, but constructive public service jobs for workers unable to find work in the private sector. These public service jobs will benefit communities, and provide skills and work experience needed for permanent, private-sector jobs.

Special job and training programs have been launched or expanded to assist youths, young and disabled veterans, minority-group members and other groups traditionally suffering high unemployment rates, even under the best of economic conditions

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Comprehensive youth employment legislation has been enacted, launching several innovative programs to bring down high unemployment among teenagers and young adults by putting them to work in public forests and parks, conservation projects and other socially useful tasks.

Unemployed Vietnam-era veterans are being recruited actively for jobs in private industry under the Help Through Industrial Retraining and Employment (HIRE) program, which was part of the economic stimulus package signed by President Carter May 13, 1977. Disabled veterans have been recruited to help the public employment service to identify other disabled veterans and assist them in obtaining available jobs and training.

President Carter has proposed major reforms in the nation's welfare system that would replace the present patchwork of federal welfare programs with a simplified and more effective attack on poverty. Increased work opportunities will be provided for people who need and want to work, and more equitable cash assistance will be available for needy men and women unable to work because of disability, age or family responsibilities.

A substantial federal minimum wage increase is being sought for the nation's lowest-paid workers, whose earnings have been eroded by inflation. Future automatic adjustments in the minimum have been proposed to help workers keep step with rising living costs.

A major redirection of job safety and health act enforcement has been initiated to focus on the most serious hazards facing workers and put special emphasis on protecting their health against the growing number of potentially toxic industrial substances.

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Enforcement of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act has been stepped up to protect workers better from misuse and loss of their hard-earned pension and welfare funds.

Equal employment opportunity has also been given the priority it deserves as we strive to expand job prospects for minority-group members, women, older workers, the handicapped and military veterans. Laws banning employment discrimination are being enforced vigorously to assure that qualified workers' talents and productive capacities are not wasted simply because of race, sex, age, mental or physical disabilities or other arbitrary considerations.

Needed reforms have been recommended to improve the mechanism which implements our national labor relations policy. These reforms would strengthen the legal guarantees that workers have to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing or, if they desire, to refrain from doing so. Today, these rights are often delayed or denied because of imperfections in the legal process.

The success of these efforts to improve the wages, working conditions and employment opportunities of American workers will depend heavily on cooperation and support among all groups who share a stake in their well-being--labor, management, the public and government at every level.

While Labor Day 1977 finds most of our citizens enjoying the best living and working conditions in the world, others continue to endure hardships.

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Our challenge is to match their desire for the dignity and pride of meaningful work with constructive tasks that need to be performed in our society and to assure that all men and women have opportunities to exert the full measure of their potential in productive jobs.

As we pause on Labor Day to recognize the many contributions of wage-earners to our economy and the quality of our American way of life, let us resolve to seek continued progress benefiting them and, ultimately, all citizens.

# # #

BLACK EX-OFFENDER JOINS STAFF
OF REHABILITATION CENTER

MORROW, Ga. -- For Darryl Carter, 17, the biggest problem he encountered was the transition from client to staffer.

Now a counselor at Genesis, the Clayton County Community Treatment Center, he recalls that when he was there as a client "I was just another kid. I resented authority.

"Now I see I was wrong...like about being late. I learned to be responsible. Genesis will show you how to change your life, if you are willing," he adds.

Carter's $2.30 an-hour-salary is paid from funds provided for the county's summer youth program by the U.S. Labor Department under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

Genesis provides rehabilitation services to 11 to 16 year-old runaways or who are on probation for misdemeanors.

During the day, participants get counseling and other rehabilitative services but are allowed to return to their respective homes at night.

Established by the county in 1974, Genesis, with its supervised programs is an alternative to the youth detention center.

Carter was referred to Genesis last December by a county court service worker. After a period of adjustment, Carter became a "model participant." He so impressed his counselors that he was hired as a staffer for the program.

In addition to counseling, Carter is a co-leader of group discussions and also overseas performance of work.

Carter plans to finish high school, go to college and become a professional counselor.

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Week of September 5, 1977

175 TO TRAIN FOR CONSTRUCTION TRADES
UNDER CETA CONTRACT

WASHINGTON -- PREP, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio, has received a $290,691 contract to continue its efforts to prepare minority group prospects to take and pass apprenticeship entry examinations in the construction trades in seven counties in Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.

Assistant Secretary of Labor Ernest G. Green announced that the contract funding will cover about 175 applicants over the year. Of the total, 50 will be trained to pass tests to qualify for apprenticeship in the construction trades. Another 125 persons beyond the entry level age limits, generally about age 27, will be helped to become craft workers in the construction trades. Previous experience plus additional training will help them qualify for the craft worker status.

The program will operate in the following states and counties:

INDIANA	Dearborn
KENTUCKY	Campbell Kenton Boone
OHIO	Hamilton Clermont Warren

Since 1971, PREP, Inc., has arranged the indenture of 401 people in apprenticeship, placed 580 people as journeymen, and 30 persons in other jobs.

The contract is funded under Title III of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), administered by the Department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

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Week of September 5, 1977

PHILADELPHIA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
DEBARRED FROM FEDERAL CONTRACT WORK

WASHINGTON -- Anastasi Brothers Corporation, a Philadelphia-based construction company and one of the largest masonry contractors in the United States, has been debarred from doing business with the federal government.

Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall announced that the company, which participated from 1974 through 1976 in the federally assisted construction of an addition to a New Haven, Conn., hospital, was found in violation of Executive Order 11246, as amended.

The 1965 order prohibits federal contractors and subcontractors from employment discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, or national origin. It is administered by the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) in the Employment Standards Administration.

Anastasi Brothers is the second company debarred for violating Executive Order 11246 under the Carter Administration, Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards Donald Elisburg pointed out. Earlier this month, OFCCP debarred the Ingersoll Milling Machine Company of Rockford, Ill.

"Debarment of Anastasi Brothers is yet another indication of my determination to guarantee equal employment opportunity on federal and federally-assisted contract work," Marshall said. "Employment discrimination is illegal and intolerable; we will continue to use the contract compliance enforcement program as a major weapon against it," he added.

Racial discrimination by Anastasi Brothers was discovered by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), one of the 16 federal agencies with compliance responsibility under the executive order.

In particular, HEW found that the company refused to abide by the bid conditions for minority employment goals which were incorporated in its federally-assisted construction contract. These goals were developed in conjunction with the New Haven hometown plan, which establishes an equal employment opportunity program for the construction industry in that area. The New Haven plan is one of 41 voluntary plans for construction contract compliance which have been approved by OFCCP.

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Anastasi Brothers, which held a subcontract of $650,000 for the masonry work on the St. Raphael's Hospital addition, was required to meet minority employment goals for bricklayers ranging from 26.3 percent to 36.3 percent during the two-year period. However, HEW found that the company's average employment of minority bricklayers was less than 16 percent during the time.

Moreover, Anastasi Brothers refused to make sufficient efforts to increase their employment of minority workers to attain those goals. The company also laid off minority employees before others and refused to take part in recruitment and training programs designed to increase minority employment.

"Despite efforts by HEW to reach a conciliation agreement, Anastasi Brothers would not comply with their contractual obligations under Executive Order 11246," OFCCP Director Weldon J. Rougeau said. "We had no choice but to debar them from government contract work."

The debarment, the 15th by OFCCP, affects the company's Philadelphia office as well as its branches in Pompano Beach, Fla., and Marshfield, Mass.

Anastasi Brothers will be permitted to complete two contracts it now holds with the Department of Housing and Urban Development for work in the Boston area, but it cannot receive any extensions or modifications of the contracts and is prohibited from bidding on any future federal contract work unless it satisfies the director of OFCCP that it is in compliance with the executive order.

# # #

Week of September 5, 1977

OSHA TAKES ACTION TO PROTECT WORKERS
AGAINST HAZARDS OF PESTICIDE DBCP

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall and Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. Eula Bingham announced additional actions designed to protect workers exposed to Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), a widely used pesticide.

The U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will issue an Emergency Temporary Standard limiting worker exposure to Dibromochloropropane (DBCP). A special workplace practices guide was sent to all businesses involved outlining recommended action to be taken in the interim.

Dr. Bingham, head of OSHA, stated, "The evidence indicates that workers who have been exposed to DBCP at the Occidental Petroleum Plant in Lathrop, California and workers exposed at a Dow Chemical Plant in Magnolia, Arkansas have been found to be sterile.

"In addition, given the mounting evidence, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration has decided to issue an Emergency Temporary Standard."

Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall said that, "This strong and prompt action by OSHA indicates our commitment to eliminate the serious health hazards that daily threaten the working men and women of this country."

In a special letter to all manufacturers, formulators, and distributors of this halogenated hydrocarbon pesticide, Dr. Bingham pointed out that DBCP has also been found to be carcinogenic in two species and two target organs, the stomach and mammary glands.

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The workplace guidelines, which are being sent to businesses and worker representatives, call for immediate programs of personal hygiene, medical surveillance, monitoring for employee exposure, use of respirators, protective clothing, and programs for good housekeeping. The guidelines also call for all companies to reduce the airborne concentrations of DBCP in worker's breathing zones to the lowest possible level.

# # #

Week of September 5, 1977

JOB SERVICE PROPOSES INDICATORS
FOR MEASURING SERVICES TO VETERANS

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Labor Department has proposed indicators of compliance to measure the level of preference given to veterans by local offices of the public employment service (Job Service).

Assistant Secretary of Labor Ernest G. Green set forth the numerical levels for these indicators of compliance in a Federal Register notice, seeking comments before they become official rules and regulations.

The indicators of compliance consist of minimum levels of service and measures of preference accorded veterans. These would take effect October 1, 1977.

If a state agency does not meet the compliance indicators established by the Department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA), it would be considered out of compliance and would then be required to provide documentary evidence to the ETA that is failure is based on good cause.

If the agency is unable to prove its case, it will then be required to submit a corrective action plan for the following fiscal year, or the ETA may take other action, depending on the circumstances. These agencies will be identified and their corrective action plans included in the Secretary's annual report to the Congress.

Minimum levels of service to veterans have been established for counseling, enrollment or training, job development, placement and termination with some service.

Veterans preference indicators have been established through numerical values for compliance on the basis of:

1. Veterans versus nonveterans
2. Veterans of the Vietnam-era versus nonveterans
3. Disabled veterans versus nonveterans.

These indicators are stated as ratios. Thus, for the first group, the ratio of veteran applicants counseled to the total number of veteran applicants "shall exceed the ratio of nonveteran applicants counseled to the total number of nonveteran applicants by at least 25 percent.

The ratios in this group for training would be five percent, for job development,

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50 percent; for placements, 10 percent; inactivation with some service, 15 percent.

For the second group, the Vietnam-era veterans, the ratios would be: counseled, 35 percent; enrolled in training, 10 percent; job development contacts, 60 percent; placed in jobs, 15 percent; inactivation with some service, 20 percent.

For the third group, the disabled veterans, the ratios are the highest: counseled, 100 percent; enrolled in training, 15 percent; job development contacts, 75 percent; placed in jobs, 20 percent; inactivation with some service, 25 percent.

The performance of the state agencies would be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the regional offices of the ETA.

Comments by the public on the proposal should be sent to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, Attn: William B. Lewis, Administrator, U.S. Employment Service, Room 8000, 601 D Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20213.

# # #

Week of September 5, 1977

AUGUST JOB BANK DATA SHOW
SLOWDOWN IN GROWTH OF OPENINGS

Washington -- 572,000 full-time permanent jobs were available in July through the nation's Job Banks, an average of 3,400 at each compared to 3,540 the previous month.

The U.S. Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) reported that the 4 percent drop in average openings per Job Bank district marks the first month-to-month decline in 1977.

A similar decline showed up in a matched sample of more than 100 Job Banks for which both current and earlier data are available. The total number of jobs available in July was 2 percent higher than the month before, compared to rises of 7 percent in June and 9 percent in May. The total in July was 40 percent above the total for the sample in July a year ago.

Some narrowing occurred in the number of areas reporting gains in openings for the month, as that statistic fell to 52 percent, compared with 70 percent in June and 80 percent in May.

(These data are not seasonally adjusted because not enough information has accumulated to determine the extent of influence by seasonal factors.)

The August issue of the new bulletin "Occupations in Demand" lists 132 occupations for which there was a high demand by employers. They represent 386,000 openings or about 70 percent of the total for the 168 Job Banks reporting in July.

"Occupations in Demand"--available at all state Job Service, or employment service, offices--is designed to tell job seekers (especially those just entering the labor market) what types of jobs are most frequently available, what they pay and where they are located.

The computerized Job Bank system operates in virtually every state. Though they do not list all job openings that exist in the economy, Job Banks comprise the largest, most comprehensive, and most up-to-date body of information on job openings in the country. The ETA's U.S. Employment Service administers the system.

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Job Bank Openings Data--Recent Trends

Year and Month	Openings Available		Unfilled Openings		Coverage	
	Total	Average Per Job Bank District	Total	Open 30 Days or More	States	Job Bank Dists.
July 1977	572,000	3,400	268,000	131,000	44	168
June 1977	531,000	3,540	235,000	116,000	41	150
July 1976	394,000	2,530	166,000	76,000	38	156

Of the 572,000 Job Bank openings total for July, about 304,000--or 53 percent--had been filled or cancelled by the end of the month. This left some 268,000--or 47 percent--of the jobs still available as of Aug. 1.

Another 250,000 to 350,000 new openings are expected to be listed with Job Banks during August at Job Service offices.

The Labor Department emphasized there is no guarantee that jobs listed in the bulletin are still available. They are occupations for which there was a continuing demand during July in the communities listed.

Some jobs may remain vacant for consjderable periods because wage, fringe benefits or working conditions are considered unsatisfactory by applicants.

Another reason some jobs are unfilled: they simply haven't been opened long enough.

From time to time the bulletin may list occupations in which there is relatively high unemployment nationwide. This may reflect high turnover in certain areas, pockets of excess demand or unfavorable pay and working conditions.

Job applicants are advised to ask the Job Service for detailed information on what jobs are currently available locally. The Job Service frequently can provide information on openings in other Job Bank locations across the country.

The August "Occupations in Demand" bulletin will soon be available at most Job Service and unemployment insurance offices throughout the country. Additional supplies are being made available by state employment security agencies to schools, libraries, and other community agencies.

Increased demand for workers through local Job Banks in July over June was

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concentrated in California, Massachusetts, Missouri and five southeastern states--Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi. Areas with greatest increases were:

-- Alabama: Anniston (+13%) and Huntsville (+16%);

-- California: Los Angeles (+18%), Sacramento (+30%), San Fernando (+11%), and San Gabriel (+22%);

-- Florida: Jacksonville (+15%), Miami (+27%), and Tampa (+11%);

-- Georgia: Atlanta (+18%), Central (+12%), and South (+19%);

-- Louisiana: New Orleans (+18%) and Nonmetropolitan areas (+11%);

-- Massachusetts: Lawrence (+20%), Springfield (+25%), Taunton (+42%), and Worcester (+60%);

-- Mississippi: Central (+12%), Northern (+17%), and Southern (+18%);

-- Missouri: Kansas City (+25%), St. Louis (+14%), and Central (+10%);

Other significant gains were posted in: Northwest Illinois (+15%); Detroit, Michigan (+18%); and Allentown (+27%) and Philadelphia (+11%), Pennsylvania.

Cutbacks in openings listed with the Nation's Job Banks were concentrated in:

-- Illinois: Chicago Metro (-11%);

-- Minnesota: Duluth-Grand Rapids (-45%), Minneapolis-St. Paul (-14%), Northwest (-19%), Southeast (-22%), and Southwest (-21%);

-- N. Carolina: Fayetteville (-21%), Greensboro (-13%), and Hickory (-17%);

-- New Hampshire: Statewide (-20%).

Other sizeable decreases were recorded for Newark, New Jersey (-17%); Syracuse (-24%), and Utica/Rome (-20%), New York; Dallas (-10%), and San Antonio (-12%),Texas; and Charleston, West Virginia (-15%).

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Chief among the industries significantly increasing their demand for workers through the Nation's Job Banks were state and local governments. They include agencies responsible for the administration of human resource programs (+33%); executive offices, legislative bodies, and other general government commissions and offices (+31%); public finance and taxation (+27%); administration of environmental quality and housing programs (+17%); justice, public order, and safety (+16%); and administration of economic programs (+15%).

Other industries recording significant openings increases in July were: social service establishments, including job training and vocational rehabilitation services (+30%); amusement and recreation services (+16%); and educational services (+14%).

On the down side of the Job Bank system, industries reducing their orders for additional workers included agricultural services (-12%), bituminous coal and lignite mining (-18%), furniture and fixtures (-14%), and textile mill products (-15%).

In the Job Bank system for July, occupational groups posting sizeable increases included jobs concerned with social and welfare work, education, counseling, inspecting and investigating, excavating and grading, gardening and groundskeeping, and merchandising--all up 20 percent or more; and miscellaneous personal services, janitorial services, motor freight transportation, administrative specialties, service industry management, hospital attendant work, asbestos and insulation work, and wood machining--all up 10 percent or more.

Occupational groups with declining openings included jobs concerned with ore refining and foundry work (-18%), casting and molding (-13%), metal fabricating and forming (-13%), assembly and repair of electrical equipment (-12%), textile and leather fabrication and repair (-11%), and extraction of minerals (-21%).

# # #

WORK STOPPAGES IN JULY 1977

WASHINGTON -- Idleness attributable to work stoppages in July was 0.23 percent of estimated working time (2.3 working days idle per thousand), according to preliminary estimates of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. This was well above the June rate of 0.18 but below the 0.30 percent recorded in July 1976.

Except for 1972 and 1973, when wage-price controls were in effect, the July idleness rate was the lowest in the past 10 years. Total work days idle were the lowest recorded since 1968, again with the exception of 1972 and 1973.

Idleness for the first 7 months of 1977 was 0.16 percent, much the same as it has been since 1975.

Strikes in July numbered 1,032, higher than any previous month in 1977 and the second highest July total during the 1968-77 period.

Approximately 483,000 workers engaged in labor disputes in July, the greatest number to date in 1977 but only slightly more than half the number of workers recorded as July's high in 1971. The number of workers increased by 121 from the June estimate and was only slightly lower than the July 1976 figure.

Some 3.9 million days off the job resulted from labor-management disputes in July, compared with 3.3 million in June and 5.1 million a year ago.

Stoppages in July involved more workers than those in June averaging 468 and 374 workers per strike, respectively. Stoppages this month were, however, somewhat smaller than the average in July 1976.

The average duration of strikes (as measured by days of idleness per worker involved) declined in July to 8.0 days, the shortest strike duration for July during the past 10 years.

Nine large strikes (each involving 5,000 workers or more) were in effect in July 1977. These strikes, three of which continued into August, accounted for approximately one-third of all workers involved in disputes this month and 36.8 percent of all days idle. In July 1976, the 12 large strikes represented almost twice the number of workers and days idle.

# # #

Week of September 5, 1977

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first state to create a permanent agency to mediate labor disputes was New York in 1886, according to "Labor First in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

* * *

The first federal arbitration law, passed in 1888, applied only to railroad workers and provided for voluntary arbitration by a presidentially-appointed three-member board, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

* * *

The first permanent federal mediation service was established by the Erdman Act of 1898, later declared unconstitutional, and pertained only to railroad disputes, according to "Labor Firsts in America," published by the U.S. Department of Labor.

* * *

The first President to act as mediator in a labor dispute was Theodore Roosevelt, who personally attempted to settle the anthracite strike of 1902, according to "Labor Firsts in America," published by the U.S. Department of Labor.

* * *

The first federal legislation allowing federal employees to unionize and to lobby Congress was the Lloyd-LaFollette Act of 1912, according to "Labor Firsts in America," published by the U.S. Department of Labor.

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